

PBS MACNEIL/LEHRER NEWSHOUR
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MLO1>PROGRAM>LEHRER: Good evening. An instruction book on death and <
>INTRODUCTION>destruction leads today's news. The book was allegedly
produced by the CIA for friendly rebels in Nicaragua. President Reagan, this afternoon, ordered an investigation to see if that's so. Also today, there were new figures out showing increases in consumer spending and personal income. And an earthquake did damage but no injury in six Western states. Robin?

MACNEIL: On tonight's NewsHour, we focus on three stories in depth. The sudden furor over the CIA in Nicaragua: We talk to a former CIA official and the congressman who wants the agency's present boss dismissed. We have a documentary report on how the environment has become the hottest issue in one election. And we talk to one of the investigators who unmasked the former Nazi who became a top NASA official.

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MLO2>NICARAGUA/CIA>LEHRER: The CIA manual story leads our summary of the <
>MANUAL>day's news. President Reagan today ordered the Central Intelligence Agency to investigate the possibility of improper conduct by CIA employees in the matter. The 44-page manual was reportedly provided to U.S.-supported rebels in Nicaragua. It suggests neutralizing Nicaraguan government officials with a selective use of violence among other things. White House spokesman Larry Speakes, in announcing the investigation, said the administration does not advocate or condone political assassination. Sen. Barry Goldwater, the Republican chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said the investigation should be completed as soon as possible. Robin?

MACNEIL: Democrats jumped on the issue, some reviving calls for the dismissal of CIA Director William Casey. House Speaker Thomas O'Neill called the manual 'another one of our disasters to our foreign policy.' Congressman Edward Boland of Massachusetts, chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said the book was 'repugnant, a document that should never have been produced by any element of the United States government.' The Democratic presidential candidate, Walter Mondale, used it as another way of attacking President Reagan's competence in foreign policy. WALTER MONDALE (Democratic presidential candidate): Yesterday, we have the disclosure of the CIA manual, which makes two or three things clear. First, ah,

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at least if you read it, the objective of this administration is to overthrow, ah, the Nicaraguan government. Ah, the second is that it puts the United States in a position of continuing this illegal covert war, which has been counterproductive. And once again, the American people are embarrassed, ah, just as they were in the mining of the Nicaraguan harbor, and our enemies are strengthened. Who's in charge? Who makes these decisions? Who protects Americans? Ah, this is now becoming a central issue in, ah, this campaign.

MACNEIL: In a campaign speech in Seattle, vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro accused President Reagan of moral blindness in foreign policy and pointed to the Nicaragua manual as an example.

REP. GERALDINE FERRARO (Democratic vice presidential candidate): This week, we learned that the CIA has written and is circulating among the contras in Nicaragua a manual which teaches methods of assassination, terror, blackmail and mob violence. Now this is totally contrary to our basic values. (applause) Anyone who believes for one minute that refining the murder techniques of Central Americans will advance our national interest is gravely mistaken. (applause) We should be resolving differences, not aggravating them. We should be building economies, not mining harbors.

MACNEIL: Democratic Congressman James Shannon of Massachusetts called on President Reagan to fire CIA Director Casey, quote, 'for the sake of all those who believe in freedom.' One administration official available for comment today was U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick. She was asked in Washington whether the memorandum should have been distributed and whether assassination was a part of U.S. policy.

JEANE KIRKPATRICK (U.S. ambassador to the United Nations): I know that our government and our administration absolutely, ah, forbid assassination and murder as instruments of U.S. foreign policy, and that is very clear. I also know that the president has asked for a full inquiry of this matter. And, ah, I do not know anything about distribution of such a manual. I do not even know that there was such distribution.

MACNEIL: We'll be pursuing this story further later in the program.

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ML03>LEBANON/U.S.>MACNEIL: American intelligence was also in the news today <
>EMBASSY ATTACK>over the bombing of the U.S. Embassy annex last month in Lebanon. The Washington Post reported that the U.S. government knew days before that explosive targeted against State Department personnel had been brought into Lebanon. The newspaper said Reagan administration officials reviewing the attack said the intelligence

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reports compound the government's failure to provide more astringent security measures. One official said it was inexcusable, the newspaper reporter. Vice President George Bush, asked about this on the campaign trail, commented, 'The White House did not ignore any intelligence. Jim?

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